

The Kansas Chief.

SOL. MILLER, - - - - EDITOR.

WHITE CLOUD, KANSAS:

Thursday, : : : March 26, 1863.

Affairs at Iowa Point.

There has been some excitement at Iowa Point, within a short time past, growing out of the following circumstances: One Panchon, who was a reputed secessionist, and who was suspected of having been engaged in the negro kidnapping affair, about a year ago, fled to Missouri for safety, at the time of the killing of Charles Fitcher. Panchon had been a valuable hand in the mill at that place; and his services being needed, a meeting was recently held, composed of men of various shades of politics, at which a vote was passed asking him to return. Another party, composed entirely of Union men, declared that he was a traitor and a kidnapper, and should not come back. We believe the matter stands in statu quo—Panchon being unwilling to risk himself there, unless the people unanimously desire his return.

In connection with these circumstances, an old farmer, residing a few miles west of the river, relates an incident in his experience. While Panchon was in the mill at Iowa Point, at a time when traitors made no scruples in "letting themselves out," this farmer called at the mill, and asked Panchon if he could have a griot ground that day? "No," was the reply, "we don't grind for d-d Abolitionists!" "Well, I am an Abolitionist," replied the farmer, "and I am glad you know it." With that, Panchon came at him, with his fist doubled, cursing him for a "d-d black Abolitionist," and ordering him out of the mill; and to escape violence at the hands of the enraged secessh, he was compelled to leave. The farmer made complaint to the proprietors of the mill, who begged of him not to mention it to any one, and expressed their disapproval of Panchon's conduct. The farmer complied with their request, and said nothing about the affair; but learning that efforts were being made to bring the traitor back, he has furnished us with the foregoing statement, and authorized us to give his name, if called upon to do so.

A HIGH-TONED VIRGINIA GENTLEMAN.—A resident of Holt County, Missouri, noted for his hostility to the "Jayhawkers and thieves of Kansas," and who is constantly cursing Kansas as a "den of thieves, robbers," etc., was lately caught in a most deplorable predicament. It seems he had obtained permission of a brother secessh, a helpless invalid and cripple, who keeps hotel in that place, to "gather corn-cobs to smoke his meat." He usually gathered them in a large goods box. Madame, the landlord's wife, suspecting something, lit upon this "old Virginian gentleman" rather suddenly, one night, and raising the cobs that were lying on top, discovered that the box was filled with corn, a few cobs being placed on top, to keep the corn safely! "O! such a shout as she got up, you never heard a louder!" Roaring, bellowing and caterwauling were nothing to it. Boards, corn and cobs flew as though a kicking mare with a cockle-burr under her tail had been hatched to the box. The "old Virginian gentleman" retreated, wheeling his empty barrow before him, corals and cobs. We had a mind to give the first two letters of this "old Virginian gentleman's" name, but—Oh, blast the Jayhawkers and thieves of Kansas!

EGGS AND BRICKBATS.—These articles can be put to other uses besides making custard pies and throwing at hogs in the garden. They have brought George Francis Train to his senses. He produced a sensation in Europe; and presuming upon his popularity, he came home to America, and went into the business of making Copperhead speeches. But he had got into the wrong climate, and his appearance on the stand was usually the signal for a shower of eggs and brickbats. This plain but rough diet had a salutary effect. George Francis is now making florid and bombastic Union speeches. People listen to him, for they have no objection to Union talk; but he can never restate himself in the public confidence. People once thought him a good egg. They tried him, and found him rotten; and dish himself up as he may, with all the essences and seasonings imaginable, they will not swallow him.

MORE EMIGRATION.—Another installment of seven contrabands, from Holt County, Missouri, came over the river, on Wednesday night of last week. They were led by "Old Wils," unquibled the "chattel" of Dr. Peter, who is now sojourning at the Illinois State institution at Alton. When asked what he was going to do at Wils, replied: "Oh, I've got six niggers, and they mustn't think they're free, and will have no more work to do, 'cause they are in Kansas!"

Gen. Heintzelman has been appointed to succeed Gen. Curtis in the command of the Department of Missouri, in place of Gen. Sumner, deceased.

Two horses were stolen, on the night of the 11th inst., from Charles Cowley, living in the vicinity of Robinson, Brown County.

Conway Spits.

It is even so—Conway spits. He says it, himself; and he ought to know. It is not tobacco spit, for he don't chew. He is too stingy to buy tobacco, and too proud to beg it. But he squirts out the sublime and unadulterated saliva of righteous indignation. Conway, last Winter, voted against certain supplies or pay for the army, as Vallandigham and his co-workers did. Conway, Vallandigham & Co., voted against a resolution of thanks to Gen. Butler, for his patriotic course, while in command at New Orleans. We believe Conway voted with Vallandigham & Co. against the bill indemnifying the President for certain acts which he found necessary to save the country, that hereafter, if Copperheads should come into power, they could not impeach Lincoln, for taking a just but unusual course to crush treason. Conway offered a series of resolutions which were supposed to favor a cessation of hostilities; but as the smartest men in Congress could not understand them, he alone voted for them. Conway made a speech in which he advocated peace, and a recognition of the South, which is the desire of the meanest Copperheads. For this, the Kansas House of Representatives declared in a series of resolutions, that he had betrayed the trust reposed in him by the people of this State, branded him as an unfaithful servant, and asked him to resign his seat and come home. The Secretary of State, as requested in the resolutions, forwarded a copy to Conway, who instead of obeying them, sent back a reply, which was at once an insult to the Secretary, and an exposure of his own "Disjunctive Conjunction." Here it is:—

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.

Feb. 16th, 1863.

Hon. W. W. H. Lawrence.

Sec'y of State of Kansas.

Sir:—I herewith return your resolutions of the House of Representatives of Kansas, purporting to stigmatize me as a "traitor," with the expression of my most profound contempt for them and their authors.

I have no occasion to attempt any vindication of my character to the people of Kansas. Seven years ago the Border Ruffian Legislature passed similar resolutions against me, but it was not long before the people overbalanced these scoundrels with utter overthrow and defeat. So it will be in this case!

I shall ask the people in the next election whether I am a traitor or not; and in the meantime I spit upon the Resolutions of your House of Representatives.

With respect,

Your ob't servant,

M. F. CONWAY.

WEIGHTS, PER BUSHEL, AT ST. LOUIS.

—We have been furnished with the following table, showing the number of pounds of various articles required to make a bushel, at St. Louis. As that city is the market for all this upper country, our dealers, in order to save themselves, must be governed by these weights. Some of them, we presume, are the same as those established by the laws of this State; but there may be a difference in some articles. Farmers, dealers, and others, will do well to preserve this table:

Wheat,	60.	Dried Peaches,	33.
Corn,	56.	Dried Apples,	24.
Rye,	55.	Onions,	57.
Oats,	55.	Salt,	50.
Barley,	45.	Cash,	80.
Potatoes,	45.	Malt,	38.
Beans,	60.	Corn, (ear),	70.
Brass,	20.	Hair, (plastering),	8.
Clover Seed,	20.	Lime, (unsacked),	80.
Timothy Seed,	45.	Sweet Potatoes,	50.
Flax Seed,	50.	Peas,	60.
Hemp Seed,	45.	Hungarian Seed,	45.
Buckwheat,	32.	Sand,	130.
Castor Beans,	45.	Turnips,	55.
Blue Grass Seed,	10.		

Lane's Railroad bill has become a law. It provides roads and liberal land grants for every section of Kansas, save and except the northern tier of Counties—they don't get even so much as a small do. Our members of Congress intend to ignore Northern Kansas entirely, and crush out its prosperity! Without Northern Kansas votes, neither of our Senators would have obtained the position which they are now using to break down this section of the State. They are paying for the favor. They will not forget Northern Kansas, when the time comes round for their re-election. Let us see whether Northern Kansas will bear them in remembrance.

We have read the Consecration law, which has stricken the secessh Democracy with such holy horror. We can see nothing outrageous or unjust in it. The dreadful thing about it is, that it compels Copperheads to shoulder their muskets, as well as white people, and punishes them for discouraging enlistments and encouraging desertions. That's what the matter.

A runaway horse, with a rail hanging to his bridle, came near killing a small child in our streets, to-day, and a large crowd of children narrowly escaped. We like to see children, as soon as they are able to crawl, permitted to be continually on the streets, about the river banks, and playing on the brink of wells. It gives them an adventurous spirit.

Godley's Lady's Book, for April, is on our table. The engravings, fashion plates, and reading matter, are all of a No. 1 quality, as is always the case with Godley. Philadelphia—\$3 a year.

Arthur's Home Magazine, for April, is received. Embellishments and contents all of the usual excellent quality. Philadelphia—\$3 a year.

A Portrait.

We have received the following for publication, and give it as it came to us. We know nothing as to the truthfulness of the picture, (except from hearsay,) nor who drew it; but we know who sent it to us, and it is easy to guess at whom it is aimed:—

The Friend of Everybody—Life During the Rebellion.

Union men of Holt used to meet to devise plans of safety, and to encourage Union sentiment. The Friend of Everybody never came near—rather sneered at the idea, and tried to discourage all such movements. We could see him, the Friend, daily on the side-walks, in some rebel crowd, or in the rebel den (north door of the big brick) playing checkers, or leaning against some corner, consulting the British Subject.

Now Union men, though thinking his conduct rather strange, yet nominally his Delegate. At a meeting, while canvassing, the Wild-Cat (Hudgins) put the question: "Mr. B., let me ask one question. If you are elected, and all peaceable means are exhausted, what should Missouri do—go with the North or the South, if all the Slave States go out but her?" Friend says: "Missouri ought to go where her institutions belong." Wild-Cat says: "Where will that be—North or South?" This was a brilliant question. Friend says: "Of course, with the South." It choked him, and strained every nerve, but he had to come out.

Well, when assembled in Convention, our Friend of Everybody generally voted with Hudgins. One exception there was—Friend voted for the great Gamble in 1864, while Cat voted for the election of our Governor, thus deserting the most credit.

Well, the rebels then feel strong, and crowd the streets of Oregon day and night. Friend thinks the South will gain the day, and of course his chances for office will be slim. So he goes to British Subject, and asks what office he could have? Subject says: "You have kept from the South too long; offices all bespoken, and you will not be entertained." Friend begs, and says: "I was always a Pro-Slavery man, and always will be." The Subject still says: "All in vain."

Friend goes home and prays—being a religious man. "O, Heavenly Father, Almighty Being, Peculiar and Omnipotent Creator, Send down some delusions on this people. They are going to cast me out of office, which is a mighty hard thing, seeing I am used to office now going on this eleven years. Make me all right with the South, as I fear it is going to gain the day, though I used to think the North was Amen."

After a few days the prayer was answered. One morning the Peabody soldiers came here, and carried away the treason-pump of the Subject. The Subject prayed, and the Lord told him to go to the Friend of Everybody. So up he gets, and off he goes to the Friend of Everybody, and tells him if he will get his treason-pump back, he will receive him into the South. So off they go together. On the way, the Subject tells the Friend if he will be true to the South, he may have the office of Coroner; but he must tell him all the secrets of the Union men, and must still pretend to be a strong Union man, to get at them. Friend gladly agrees to this, and swears by Jeff. Davis to do so. So Friend gets the pump back, and sets it going.

A few nights after, the Subject plays a game on the Friend. He goes to his home at midnight, and tells him the rebels are coming to take and hang him, and to save his life, he had better kite. Friend springs out of bed in his shirt-tail, and runs out toward a hiding place, screaming, "O, save me! save me!" Subject calls him back, and has him put on his breeches; after which, Friend, with tears streaming down his university friendly face, thanks Subject for saving his life, and puts for the brush. Next morning Subject gathers the rebels in the den, and tells them what a trick he has played on the Friend of Everybody. The den dings with shouts and yells. The Subject makes them all promise to say nothing; for good work could be got out of the good Friend, by keeping him deceived. And so it was; for whenever danger threatened the British Subject, the Friend would always contrive to hint it to him in the night; and to this day, the good Friend believes the Subject saved his life.

When Hooker and Hobson's men came, the Subject was told by the Friend. Subject said he thought, according to their compromise, more soldiers were to come, unless by their direction. Subject tells Friend to find out their mission. He tries, but can't; as the officers have no confidence in him. "Go back again," commands the Subject. He does, and again fails. He then goes down street, locked in arms with the Subject, consulting what to do. Subject tells Friend to take a Union flag and put it on the Court House, and sit up there with it until all have seen him. He does so, and sits there about three hours; then comes down, and tries to find out the mission of the soldiers. This time he gets a mouthful, and slips around the corner, where the Subject is awaiting him. The good Friend of Everybody tells him they are not after him, which eases him.

Well, time passes, and the Union side begins to look up very brightly, and Friend thinks the Union will gain the day. He now begins to come into Union crowds; he comes where they are reading Union newspapers, and tries to press in to get a chance to read for them. All thought it strange that he would not do so before.

Time rolls on. Face comes suddenly to town. Troll, troll, goes the Friend through the fields and over the fence, bound for Kansas. He now feels bilious against the Subject, for not telling him. After the Union men drive Pace off, the Friend comes back, goes to St. Joseph, brings back a body guard with him, and says: "The Jayhawkers had best not come in here." Well, they did come, bringing some prisoners with them. He tells the commander of his body guard to order them off, which he does; but they don't go till they get their pay.

Now the Union cause seems all right; so, to make himself all right with Union men, he meets with them, and takes the lead. "Why did he not do so before?" say the Union men. "Because he didn't know but that the rebels would gain the day—he wanted to be on the fence, so that he could drop on either side." He says there is no one fit to command, but McClellan; so one fit to lead the people of Holt, but himself. Big man I want all to look up to him.

He comes home from the Convention, last Summer, quite bilious, and says all the Union men of Holt have turned out Abolitionists. He gets a paper which proves that the Subject claims British protection, under pretence to prosecute him; he hides it, and won't give it up, to save the Subject. He is still a friend to the Subject, and he forgets that letter. When rebels have been imprisoned for murdering Union men, he has been the most active in getting them released. When Union boys are

imprisoned for tearing down a rebel house, he goes to St. Joseph and gets up a paper, with other friends, (of rebels,) also altogether, and has it published, claiming that he and they are the great Union men of Holt, the most loyal of the loyal, vilifying our Union boys, and trying to fasten their bonds tighter on them—calling them robbers and plunderers. He wants them punished, whether guilty or not. He sees the Democrats of the North doing all they can for the rebellion, encouraging and protecting deserters, and whole Democratic regiments deserting. He says it is all right—it is done to put down Abolitionism!

Yes, this Friend of Everybody is a friend only to rebels, traitors, deserters, and murderers of all sorts; but of honest men, loyal citizens, and men of quiet, peaceable ways, he is the sneaking enemy. If ever he comes up for office, he will get more rebel votes than any other kind. The Friend is now dead, dead, dead; and all loyal men say "Amen!"

VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.—It will be seen, by the following, that the citizens of the Cedar Creek neighborhood, in this County and Brown, have organized a Vigilance Association, for the detection and punishment of horse thieves. Weekly, almost nightly, depredations continue to be committed. That means which will secure a speedy detection and summary punishment of the outlaws, is the best that can be adopted. We know of nothing better than an active, prompt, and fearless Vigilance Committee. They should be organized in every neighborhood, and some wholesome examples should be set:

Pursuant to notice, the first regular meeting of the Cedar Creek Vigilance Committee Lodge, was held at the Cedar Creek School House, March 19th, 1863, when a Constitution was read by a committee previously appointed to draft the same, and adopted; and for the purpose of protecting ourselves against the depredations of horse thieves, the following officers, for the first quarter, were elected:

S. M. NESBITT, R. H. N. C. B. FOX, R. S. E. S. FLOTNER, W. R. S. H. M. COBURN, W. C. J. CHAPMAN, R. K. B. V. RASCO, Corresponding Sec'y.

ESKRIDGE "PLAYING OFF."—The Emporia News says that Mr. Eskridge, Representative from that County, made a speech upon his return home, in which he charged that his colleague, Mr. Page, was responsible for the defeat of the Emporia University bill. We can tell the News who was the sole cause of Emporia's defeat. His name was Eskridge. In the early part of the session, after Manhattan agreed to take the Agricultural College, Emporia had the "dead wood" on the University. But Eskridge went exclusively into the business of log-trickery, and ruined the thing. He figured in so many conflicting combinations, that he founded Emporia. Members saw that he was a mere trickster, without any scruples, and would not do to bet on; therefore, many of them dropped him. Had he pursued an open, manly, straight-forward course from the beginning, we have no doubt Emporia would now have the University. It illy becomes him so soon to endeavor to saddle his blunders upon his colleagues.

THE TRIO, AGAIN.—Foster, Word and "Drygripes" (Robinson) have been trying to get back to their homes in Holt County again. To this end, Word and "Drygripes" came up to Oregon, "merely to settle a little business, and then return to St. Joe." The loyal citizens met together, and took their case into consideration. They resolved, that if "Foster, Word and Robinson could stay there, they could not," and also resolved to drive the two out of the County. Accordingly, Messrs. R. D. Markland, Den Potter, Daniel David, and nine others, were appointed a committee to wait upon them. W. and R., getting wind of the affair, lay hid in old Modie's hay-mow until the stage came along, the next day, and with fear and trembling took their departure. It is said that they were so badly scared that they *smelt bad*. One thing (we trust) is sure: the people of Holt will never allow those three to live among them.

Mrs. ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWN'S posthumous volume of "LAST POEMS," edited by THEODORE TILTON, has just re-appeared in a fifth edition, (being the fifth thousand,) from the press of James Miller, New York, showing that a good book may successfully face the risks of the market, even with paper at 25 (exorbitant) cents a pound!

The Paris Monitor, one of the leading European advocates of the Southern Confederacy, publishes Conway's speech, to show that the South cannot be conquered, and that the war is growing unpopular in the North. Conway ought to spit upon the Monitor.

We have just been shown a specimen of cotton raised on Wolf River, in this County, last season. The person raised fifty pounds of it. We do not pretend to be a judge of the staple, but the specimen shows us, looked about as well as that which comes from the South.

An exchange says that Messrs. Eskridge, Loy and Page, Representatives in the Legislature from Lyon County, worked hard for something to take home to their County. So say we—especially Page. He took home a buzzard widow from Topeka.

Gen. Burnside has been appointed to the command of the Department of the Ohio, in place of Gen. Wright, and has arrived at Cincinnati with his staff. He is to meet the rebel force invading Kentucky, and to co-operate with Rosecrans.

LATEST.—By telegraph, Wednesday

afternoon, we have the following: Dispatches have been received from Admiral Farragut, which put a new face upon the rebel reports of a victory at Port Hudson. Seven of Farragut's iron-clads have run the batteries at that place. Four of them are guarding the mouth of Red River; the other three have arrived below Vicksburg, and communicated with Admiral Porter. They recaptured the Indianola, without resistance. The rebels were at work on her, and had her nearly ready for service. The Queen of the West was seen lying in a bayou, on the Mississippi side, but out of reach of the boats. She will eventually be captured or destroyed. Important news may soon be expected from down the river.

The rebels are evacuating Fredericksburg, and falling back to Richmond. They are removing all the machinery from the foundries in the latter city, to the interior of Georgia. To the ominous aspect of Southern affairs, prominent rebel leaders, such as J. P. Benjamin, are converting all their property into foreign exchange.

John Morgan has been badly whipped, in Tennessee, by a Federal force which he had attacked.

The Indians are committing terrible ravages in Texas, murdering the people, and stealing stock. Rebel chickens coming home to roost.

Indistinct from every quarter, show that the rebel cause is rapidly going under. It will continue to sink, unless secession blunders are committed on our side.

Carr, tried in our District Court, last week, for the murder of Hamilton, was found guilty of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. He is an old man, and his sentence will in all probability last him his life-time.

The West Wind, on Wednesday, brought another large stock of goods for O. Bailey. The goods which he received two weeks since had mostly disappeared, and his shelves had begun to present an empty appearance. He will always keep up with the market.

Why are the Union men of Holt County infidels? Because they have rejected the Word.

When the Draft Will Go into Effect.

Large Loan Offered by Foreign Capitalists.

NEW YORK, March 20.

Washington letters say it will be impossible to draft before June, perhaps July. In the meantime the Government will prepare beforehand for their equipment. Also, that a loan of \$100,000,000 has been tendered the Government by a distinguished German banking house. There is to be a grand review of the Army of the Potomac under General Hooker.

The War in Tennessee.

Skirmishing on Duck River—Bragg Reinforced—Rosecrans lost some in Position.

FRANKLIN, TENN., March 20. A considerable force of the enemy's cavalry re-crossed Duck river and advanced towards Franklin yesterday, but were driven back. The bridge at Columbia has been rebuilt, and Gen. Van Dorn is said to have been largely reinforced. Cavalry skirmishes occur daily. We have lost some advantages in position.

Undoubtedly a Canard.

NEW YORK, March 19.

A Kingston, Jamaica, letter of the 7th gives a report that Admiral Wilkes boarded a British vessel laden with arms and ammunition for the French Army at Vera Cruz, and having reason to suspect that they were intended for the rebels, had them conveyed on board his ship. The vessel was not detained. The story created much excitement, and is supposed here (New York) to be a canard.

Taking Stock in the Government.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21. Jay Cook, the Subscription Agent, announces the conversion of legal tenders into the 2.50 United States loan to-day as follows: New York, \$335,000 Philadelphia, \$150,000; Boston, \$150,000; Cincinnati, \$65,000; Baltimore, \$25,000; Cleveland, \$20,000; Pittsburgh, \$15,000. Total \$730,000. The amount of sales for the week ending Saturday, 21st, was \$2,500,000.

The War on the Western Border.

KANSAS CITY, March 23. On Sunday at 10 A. M., a scout of 50 men of the 5th cavalry, came upon Quantrell's guerrillas two or three hundred strong, near Blue Springs. A short skirmish ensued, after which our forces retreated, with a loss of nine killed, five missing, and several wounded. Rebel loss unknown.

Legal Tender Notes in Kentucky.

LEXINGTON, KY., March 13. Judge Goodloe yesterday, in the Fayette Circuit Court, declared the law making Treasury notes a legal tender constitutional.

An appeal was taken and a reversal is expected, as three out of the four appellate Judges are rebels.

Death of General Sumner.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 21. Major General Edwin V. Sumner, U. S. A., died in this city at quarter past one this morning of congestion of the lungs. He had been sick but a few days. Prentiss says if the people of Charleston wish to burn their city rather than see it fall into Federal hands, let them. We can stand and see the blow if they can.

The cost of a Brigadier and his staff is about \$16,000 a year, and the cost of a Major General and his staff \$34,000.

FROM MEMPHIS.

General Grant's Cotton and Provost Marshal Orders.

Particulars of the Capture of Looney and Richardson's Guerrillas.

Memphis, March 12, via Cairo, March 14.—There is nothing later from the fleet. General Grant's cotton order prevents the staple from coming up from below; but cotton bought here can go up the river.

Gen. Grant has abolished all Post Provost Marshals in this Department since leaving here; giving henceforth to the division commanders power sufficient to appoint such themselves. Col. Anthony remains Provost Marshal of this district.

The following are the particulars of the capture of Richardson's guerrillas. As before stated, these guerrillas were located near Covington, Tenn., in Fayette County. Gen. Looney was encamped at or near Chesley, about the depot.

Colonel Grierson with the 6th and 7th Illinois cavalry, marched upon Richardson, on Tuesday morning, and surrounded them. Richardson's men were not prepared for a fight, and dispersed in small squads in every direction. Richardson himself, being pursued by several Union cavalry men, made his escape, his horse being fast. Twenty-five dead bodies are reported left on the ground. A number of prisoners, not known how many, and all the property about the camp was taken and destroyed.

When Col. Grierson moved upon the front it had been Col. Lee's intention to fall upon the rear by way of Germantown; but near by the depot he discovered and surprised the rebel General Looney's encampment. This force tried to escape, but the larger portion was taken, with General Looney, Major Harney, Captain Bright and Lieutenant Williams. Part of the rebels ran nearly two miles before they were captured by Lee's forces.

Richardson formerly lived here and bore a good character. He has a commission from the Confederacy, but his force is merely a thieving, murdering gang, dividing the spoils among themselves. For months they have been a terror to the people in West Tennessee. Looney is also well known here. He was a Union man, and went into the army as a last resort. He was engaged in recruiting. His force consisted of only two companies.

No good feelings existed between himself and Mr. Richardson, whose escape the former had reported at Richmond. His men protested against being put in the same prison with "Richardson's thieves."

GOOD NEWS FROM VICKSBURG.

The Louisiana Country Inundated and the Guerrillas Drowned Out.

The Yazoo River Expedition an Entire Success—Capture of Twenty-Six Rebel Transports—Ramored Evacuation of Vicksburg—&c., &c., &c.

NEAR VICKSBURG, March 9, via Cairo, March 15.—The river has risen so high that Gen. McClellan's troops have been compelled to embark for Milliken's Bend, sixteen miles above this point. The levee is broken in several places. Recent operations at Lake Providence and elsewhere have resulted in the inundation of more than one hundred miles of country. The Louisiana guerrillas have been completely drowned out from several points at which they used to trouble our gunboats.

The Yazoo Pass project is an entire success. The gunboats have arrived above Haines' Bluff, and will commence the attack. It is thought the bluff is poorly fortified to defend against an attack from above. Haines' Bluff is on a continuation of a chain of hills 9 miles from Vicksburg. Ramors are rife, to the effect that the rebels are evacuating Vicksburg. They will have to leave Grenada also, as soon as we get possession of the Yazoo river. The greater part of this force will go to Chattanooga, where they hope to overwhelm Rosecrans in the next battle.

Joe Johnson has gone to Tennessee, and will command the rebel army there in the next battle. Our fleet captured twenty-six transports up the Yazoo. They destroyed 18 of them. The dredge boats are still working in the canal, but high waters interfered somewhat with their operations. The mortar boats will commence firing to-day.

LATEST FROM VICKSBURG.

Capture of Yazoo City and the Rebel Fleet.

Progress of Operations on the Canals.

MEMPHIS, March 13. Information from Vicksburg to Monday afternoon, reports that Com. Porter had received information that the Yazoo Pass expedition had captured Yazoo City and destroyed the Confederate fleet between Haines' Bluff and Yazoo City. Com. Porter momentarily expected signals from Haines' Bluff.

The canal opposite Vicksburg is temporarily impeded by the washing away of the embankment at the mouth. The levee between Grand Lake and Lake Providence has been cut by the rebels, and the water is pouring over and flooding the country.

The water is three feet deep in the canal opposite Lake Providence, but the Federals are still at work. It is believed we shall have a complete success, notwithstanding levee cutting by the rebels. The health of the troops is improving.

Paroled Soldiers Demolish a Secesh Newspaper Office.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 16. Eight hundred paroled prisoners en route for Chicago, were detained at Richmond, Indiana, last night. While there they completely demolished the office of the Jeffersonian, an anti-war sheet. They arrived here to-night and threatened the Sentinel. The military authorities placed a guard to prevent any disturbance. A large indignation meeting was held here to-night, in regard to an article in the Cincinnati Enquirer, insinuating to soldiers' families, equally from a Indiana, as yet radio que radio tads, and on Loud w

FROM HOOKER'S COLUMN.

Brilliant Cavalry Battle.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, March 18.—A most brilliant cavalry fight occurred on the Rappahannock yesterday, beginning at Kelley's Ford.

A reconnaissance, under command of Gen. Averill, forced a passage over the river in the face of a determined resistance by a considerable body of rebel sharpshooters, who were covered by houses and rifle-pits, and a dry mill-race with an abutment in front.

The ford admitted but a single horseman at a time, and the stream, which was swollen, was very rapid.

Arriving at the south side of the river, our cavalry charged the rebels in their intrenchments, killing or capturing the entire force, besides securing a large number of horses hit by the rebels. A short distance from the shore Gen. Averill's command encountered the rebel cavalry under Stuart and Fitzhugh Lee, who had hastened from Culpeper to prevent our passage. They made some dashing charges on our troops, who repulsed and in turn charged them with fatal effect, using sabres only in the conflict.

Whenever the enemy made a stand they were immediately charged upon and routed from their position with great loss. The battle lasted five hours, and was a series of charges and hand-to-hand conflicts, resulting in the falling back of the enemy.

The forces were about two thousand on each side. The enemy at last took refuge behind an entrenched battery, four miles from the ford, flanked by rifle-pits and abatis.

Gen. Averill having accomplished his object and secured his prisoners, the wounded on both sides and a large number of horses, recrossed the river without attack or detention on the part of the rebels, who were so badly whipped that they could not follow or annoy him. Among the prisoners is Major Brackinridge, a cousin of the traitor John C. Breckinridge.

The prisoners characterize the affair on our part as one of the best and most gallantly fought cavalry raids of the war, and admit that their own troops were totally demoralized by the sabre charge of our cavalry. About eighty prisoners have been brought in.

FROM FORT DONELSON.